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Monsanto

DETERGENTS/PHOSPHATES DIVISION

Monsanto Chemical Company P.O. Box 816 Soda Springs, Idaho 83276 Phone: (208) 547-3391

October 31, 1990

Mr. John Meyer Superfund Site Manager U.S. EPA Region 10 (HW-113) Seattle, WA 98101

Reference: Monsanto Soda Springs Plant

Dear Mr. Meyer:

This is in response to your correspondence dated October 17, 1990 to J. P. Hyland of Monsanto Company (Monsanto) concerning Monsanto's Soda Springs Plant. We first wish to thank you for taking the time to meet with Monsanto personnel to discuss the general nature of this proceeding. While we continue to dispute the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) legal and factual assertions and reserve all of our rights and defenses in this matter, we do wish to explore the possibility of Monsanto conducting the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) at our Soda Springs Plant.

In order to facilitate both your review of the existing voluminous data on our plant as well as our understanding of the RI/FS requirements, we believe that prompt technical discussions will benefit all parties. In fact, such meetings are essential if Monsanto is to be able to provide a 60-day good faith offer by the December 18, 1990 deadline.

We should be in a position to discuss the specific aspects of the RI/FS work with you and your technical staff within the next week or two. Bob Geddes, who will be Monsanto's contact on this matter at the Soda Springs Plant, will therefore contact you in the near future to arrange a mutually acceptable time and place for such a meeting. In the meanwhile, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Bob at the above telephone number.

Very truly yours,

Kent V. Jost

Kent V. Lott

KVL/jw